

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) An inspection sample making apparatus comprising:

(a) ~~a preliminary-inspection-sample-making device~~ means, including a peeling instrument, for peeling a ~~predetermined~~ fusion-bonded ~~portion~~piece of a packaging container off a wall of the packaging container so as to make a preliminary inspection sample; and

(b) ~~a cutting means~~device for cutting the preliminary inspection sample along a predetermined cutting line so as to make an inspection sample.

2. (currently amended) An inspection sample making apparatus according to~~as described~~ in claim 1, wherein:

~~(a) the preliminary-inspection-sample-making device comprises a drive section and a peeling piece, which is rotated through activation of the drive section; and~~

~~(b) the peeling instrument~~piece comprises an insert portion for insertion ~~to be inserted~~ between the fusion-bonded ~~portion~~piece and the wall.

3. (currently amended) An inspection sample making apparatus according to~~as described~~ in claim 2, wherein the peeling ~~instrument~~piece is ~~formed of~~ a thin plate.

4. (currently amended) An inspection sample making apparatus according to~~as described~~ in claim 1, wherein the cutting ~~means~~device comprises a first cutting device for cutting the preliminary inspection sample along a lateral~~laterally predetermined~~ first cutting line, and a second cutting device for cutting the preliminary inspection sample along longitudinal~~longitudinally predetermined~~ second and third cutting lines.

5. (canceled) ~~An inspection sample making apparatus as described in claim 4, wherein the~~

~~first cutting device comprises a cutting tool.~~

6. (currently amended) An inspection sample making apparatus according to~~as described~~
~~in~~ claim 4, wherein the second cutting device comprises first and second blades.

7. (currently amended) An inspection sample making apparatus according to~~as described~~
~~in~~ claim 1, further comprising a cleaning device for cleaning the preliminary inspection
sample.

8. (Currently amended) An inspection sample making apparatus according to~~as described~~
~~in~~ claim 7, wherein the cleaning device comprises a press member for ejecting a liquid food
from the inside of the preliminary inspection sample.

9. (Currently amended) An inspection sample making apparatus according to~~as described~~
~~in~~ claim 1, further comprising a drying device for drying the inspection sample.

10. (Currently amended) An inspection sample making apparatus according to~~as~~
~~described in~~ claim 9, further comprising:

(a) an opening mechanism for opening the inspection sample, wherein

(b) the drying device dries the inspection sample in an opened condition.

11. (Currently amended) An inspection sample making apparatus according to~~as~~
~~described in~~ claim 1, wherein the cutting means makes an inspection sample
comprising~~comprises~~ at least two plate-like portions which are fusion-bonded together at
a fusion bond portion.

12. (new) An inspection sample making apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the
cleaning device further comprises liquid spray nozzles for spraying a cleaning liquid onto
the preliminary inspection sample.

13. (new) An inspection sample making apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the first

and second blades are lower blades which are parallel and are spaced apart to support the preliminary inspection sample along the second and third cutting lines, and further comprising third and fourth blades which are reciprocally driven and are arranged in parallel above the first and second blades, respectively, for cutting the preliminary inspection sample along the second and third cutting lines in cooperation with the first and second blades.

14. (new) An inspection sample making apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said first cutting device comprises a cutting blade and reciprocating drive means for reciprocally driving said cutting blade across the first cutting line.

15. (new) An inspection sample making apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the reciprocating drive means comprises a cylinder and a piston slidably mounted in said cylinder.

16. (new) An inspection sample making apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said preliminary-inspection-sample-making means further includes rotary drive means for rotatably driving the peeling instrument.